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LITERATURE.

MR. STILES'S AUSTRIA IN 1848-49.*

A FEW months since (*Lit. World*, No. 253) we introduced to our readers some passages from the MS. of Mr. Stiles's projected History of the Austrian Revolutionary movement—of a considerable portion of which, at Vienna, he had been an eyewitness, holding the advantageous position of the American Representative in that capital. His completed work fully sustains any promises we may have made of its interest or usefulness. It is a carefully prepared, judicious, temperate statement of historical causes and sequences, of which indeed there will always be different interpretations, according to the political or other theories of the observer, but of which a large class of persons, whose hopes of governmental, social, and individual perfection have been somewhat moderated by disappointment and experience, will always be prepared to accept the medium view offered by Mr. Stiles.

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All the voyage of their life
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In Mr. Stiles's narrative of the Revolutionary scenes in Vienna we are perplexed

* Austria in 1848-49: being a History of the late Political Movements in Vienna, Milan, Venice, and Prague, &c. By William B. Stiles. 2 vols. Harpers.

by the utter incapacity of the actors on both sides in the struggle. It appears an aimless contest. The Emperor in the beginning yields everything, but to no purpose; the people overthrow every power of the state, and when the Emperor logically runs away, cry for his return with the fondness of children. It is the purposeless action of a mob, knowing nothing, destroying everything, and fluctuating between loyalty and license at the whim or impulse of the moment. In the midst of the most violent acts of insurrection Mr. Stiles saw a crowd in Vienna dragging a man through the street and crying, “To the lamp-post with him!” Upon inquiring what was the nature of his offence, he was told that “he had been conversing with a friend about a republic.” A mob, such was the Academic Legion and its street supporters, can never state any case fairly, settle anything, or, as a mob, gain any permanent advantage. The European Revolutionary movement of 1848 was controlled by the mob, and it was a failure,—in everything but experience. The people have learnt—it is to be hoped—something, and the rulers must also share their part of the lesson.

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“One of the most talented of the Radical leaders in Vienna—one who afterwards paid the forfeit of his life for the extravagance of his opinions—was heard to say to an American [Mr. Stiles himself], ‘We wish no such republic as you have in the United States; we wish something original; we wish a government where there shall not only be an equality of rights and of rank, but an equality of property, and equality of everything.’ Another influential Radical, one of the celebrated Council of Fifty-two, to whom, for a season, was committed all the affairs of the German Confederation, remarked to the same gentleman, ‘Sir, the only course left to us is, to raise the guillotine, and to keep it in constant and active operation; our only watchword should be, *Blood! blood! blood!* and the more blood that flows, the sooner shall we attain our liberties!’ Such sentiments were not only freely promulgated, but even published. The *Reich Zeitung*, edited by two members of the Diet at Frankfort, in the number which appeared on the 24th of November, 1848, contains the

following awful idea: ‘The destroying angel of the Revolution will pass over the world, and the word of mercy will become paralysed upon the lips of the triumphant people!’

“And that such ideas were not confined to words, the brutal murders of Prince Lichnowsky and Count Auerswald, at Frankfort; Count Latour, at Vienna; Count Lamburg, at Pesth; and Count Rossi, at Rome, will attest. Such atrocities were uncalculated, unsuited to the cause, and destructive of the very ends they were intended to accomplish. How different was the conduct of the people of the United States, when placed under similar circumstances! When the English colonies in America declared their independence of the mother country, and dissolved ‘all connexion between them and the crown of Great Britain,’ there were royal governors presiding, ‘in the name and by the authority’ of the King of England, over each of the colonies. Were these mercenaries of a sovereign—these instruments of royalty—brutally murdered! their bodies hung up to lamp-posts, or dragged, perhaps, through the streets of a capital! Was even a hair of their heads touched! No! they were suffered to depart in peace; they were considered but the minions of power; and had the Americans descended so far as to soil their hands in their blood, it might not only have defeated the ends at which they aimed, but would have proved them unworthy of the blessing to which they aspired.”

It will be difficult for the admirers of radicalism to disprove the wisdom of the following. It refers to the constitutional reforms of England and America, of slow growth, but permanent and sturdy as the oak:—

CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOM.

“The great lesson which, it may be hoped, the friends of liberty and progress will have learned from the events of 1848, is this—that constitutional freedom must be gained by degrees, not by one desperate and sudden effort. The people must be content to conquer their political and civil rights step by step, as not only the easiest and surest, but, in the end, the speediest way. Their true and safe policy is to accept and make the most of all concessions which either a sense of danger or a sense of justice may dictate to their rulers; to remember that these, small though they may seem to one party, doubtless appear great to the other, and may have cost much self-sacrifice; and that, at all events, they are bound to use them diligently but soberly, to grow familiar with them, become masters of them; to acquire by practice dexterity in their use, and thus consolidate and secure their possession. Let them gradually, as opportunity shall serve, use these concessions as the stepping-stone to more; but never, save in the last extremity, supersede the executive authority, or call in the mob. Any attempt on the part of the people to snatch, in the hour of victory, more than they know how to wield, more than they can use well, is a retrograde and fatally false step; it is, in fact, playing the game of their opponents. If they employ their newly-acquired rights and institutions in such a manner as to show that they do not understand them and cannot manage them, and that, therefore, public tranquillity and social security are likely to be endangered by mistakes growing out of their excitement and inexperience; the great body of sober and peaceful citizens are quick to take alarm, and to carry back the material and moral weight of their sympathies to the side of the old system, however despotic may have been its character. The just and true views, when expressed in the language of a principle, are simply these: all wise and educated people will prefer a free to

a despotic government, *ceteris paribus*, i. e. order and security being the bases in both cases; but the worst theoretical government which assures these essential predicates will be, and ought to be, preferred to the best theoretical government which endangers them. The majority of the sober and influential classes will always be found on the side of that party which best understands the practical act of administration, however defective or erroneous may be its fundamental principles, however medieval may be its name."

There is a duty, too, for rulers as well as for people—the duty of preparing the government for the least intolerant exercise of power. When will the apology or necessity for despots like Napoleon in Europe give place to the beneficial rule of directors like Washington?

A large portion of Mr. Stiles's second volume is taken up with the history of the Revolution in Hungary. The narrative is told in a straightforward, unpretending style, never lacking interest. The sympathies of the writer are with the cause of freedom, though he does not disguise the depravities committed in its name. Sad is it that he closes his book with the infamy of Görgey and the exile of Kossuth. In his estimate of the last we may read in short-hand his views of the great struggle:

KOSSUTH.

"The early parliamentary labors of Kossuth entitle him to an eminent place among the legislators of Europe. His temper, habits, and education seem, indeed, to have fitted him for parliamentary life, and, under a more free and enlightened government, he would doubtless have acquired the distinction of a great orator and politician. He seems, indeed, during all the early part of his career, to have been actuated by no other ideas than those of a parliamentary and constitutional opposition to the Austrian government, and only to have been driven into revolution by the faithlessness and treachery of the imperial cabinet. His incessant labors, his earnest struggles, and his noted sufferings between 1835 and 1848, entitle him to the esteem and sympathy of every admirer of genius and every lover of liberty. It is in 1848, however, that began the more complicated phase of his career, and here the obstacles to an impartial judgment commence.

"It had become a struggle for existence when the Austrian government, in its effort to revoke the concessions of March, aroused and armed the Croats on one side and the Serbs on the other, and there seemed no alternative left the Hungarians but unconditional surrender or desperate resistance. And if there be any good ground to question the sagacity of the policy of Kossuth during the year 1848, it was the tardiness with which resistance was commenced and the Declaration of Independence issued.

"Kossuth has often said that in 1848 he held the house of Habsburg in his hand. If so, why did he spare a dynasty whose cruelty and perjury, as he states, were of centuries' duration? Was it humanity, was it fear of consequences, or was it want of nerve that impeded the exercise of his power? In the spring of 1848 he might have thought the public mind unprepared for extreme measures; but if so, why did he lend his sanction to the use of Hungarian troops in Italy, and why, above all, did he, in the fall of that eventful year, permit Windischgrätz, unopposed, to subdue Vienna, and at a blow to place the house of Habsburg in a position of impregnable authority?

"The labors of Kossuth during this period

were doubtless of the highest order of merit. His voice, his pen, his indefatigable industry, his mastery of detail, his vivid imagination, his lofty aspirations, all were employed. A highly sensitive and poetic temperament, a peculiarly active and laborious mind, exhibited themselves in his efforts in rare and striking union; he aroused and armed the people, and, thus aroused and armed, his spirit led them into conflict. It is absurd to deny, as it is impossible to underrate, his efforts during this period; and those who criticize and decry him, would find it difficult to show higher instances of genius, enthusiasm, and devotion to the cause of liberty.

"Nor does there seem, in this portion of his public life, any ground for the attempt of inimical writers to identify his character with that of the demagogue, or fix upon him the motives of an unscrupulous ambition.

"We approach the final catastrophe. The Hungarians slowly retreat to the extreme limits of their country. But they still numbered one hundred and fifty thousand men in arms; their two strongest fortresses, Komorn and Peterwardein, yet held out; and, on the banks of the Danube, at least, the gallant nation stood at bay.

"In this position of affairs, it is true, everything appeared hopeless; indeed, the cause of Hungary was desperate; but in such a position some men are capable of great and immortal deeds. Kossuth, without a convention of his cabinet, confided the supreme power to a general whom he had repeatedly declared unworthy of confidence, and fled precipitately over the frontier. This act was succeeded by the immediate surrender of the army, and thus ended the brief life of independent Hungary. It is deeply to be regretted that no detailed account of the closing transactions has been given us by Kossuth himself, and that we are consequently obliged to grope our way amid conflicting statements of men all eager to shift both the responsibility and the disgrace on others.

"Thus, for a time, Kossuth disappeared from the scene of Europe. If the testimony that history has thus far furnished, leads to the conclusion that his highly nervous, sensitive, and poetical temperament has led him into conduct that a firmer heart and more deliberate judgment would have avoided, that his extraordinary powers of expression were not combined with a corresponding executive ability, and that his vivid imagination is better calculated to arouse the passions and kindle the aspirations of others, than to obtain for himself a dispassionate and practical view of events around him; still there remains more than enough of superiority in his character to justify the warm admiration of every lover of human freedom. His consummate oratory, his poetical fancy, his capacity for labor, his struggles and his sufferings in the great cause of civil liberty, will for ever keep his name in the first rank of those who have magnanimously devoted their lives to extend the blessings of progress and equal rights, which are only the legitimate results of a free government."

We should not forget to mention the well executed portraits of Kossuth, Radetzky, the present Emperor, and others, which illustrate these volumes, which form certainly one of the most noticeable contributions yet made to the history of the recent Revolutionary period.

HISTORICAL PROGRESS.—Every new institution should be but a fuller development of, or addition to, what already exists.

NIEBUHR.

COUSIN'S MODERN PHILOSOPHY.*

WE confess to an interest in Cousin, as a writer, independent of the merit of his system of Philosophy; for it will not be easy for us to forget the time when his books awakened us to a respect and enthusiasm for the subjects with which they deal. Happy the young man who can approach the enchanted land of speculative inquiry, guided by one who knows so well all its features, and whom the very act of teaching so inspires, as the French philosopher. It is several years since we devoured the pages of this author more eagerly than the new novels, and gained at least enough of truth from them to make us rejoice to greet this new translation of the great work of Cousin. We are glad to accept the book as a new testimony to the increasing interest in philosophical studies among our young men. For, if we mistake not, the intrinsic worth and dignity of such pursuits was never so fully acknowledged among us as at the present time. It may be that the young men and women of America are not destined to resolve those problems of Being, Duty, and Destiny which have challenged the human mind since the first dawn of reflection; but, surely, the culture of a people is noble and fruitful in proportion to the interest felt in such problems. It is only foolish now to talk of the dangers of philosophic culture in its relation to social life, the state, or the church. A social system, a government, or a faith which cannot live along with the largest freedom of honest investigation, and the most generous appropriation of the results of the highest thought of the time, is doomed in itself. When we have arrived at a certain point in spiritual manhood, we must either consent to meet and give some account to ourselves of the facts which there we encounter, or agree henceforth to subside into perpetual mental boyhood. We can therefore say, God speed to this new impulse towards philosophical speculation among us. We know its dangers; that error and failure must again and again be the consequence of the attempts of the young scholar to interpret the mystery of life; that for a time apparent scepticism, and a general unsettling of old landmarks of prejudice will be a dismal prophecy to men who do not think. But we have faith in the integrity and competency of the mind to live through its own errors. The dangers that beset philosophical studies are precisely those which lie across the path to manhood in any direction. Now and then a boy is extinguished in some crisis of thought, sentiment, or action, on the dividing line between youth and middle age; but we hardly suppose that the world has much need of one who cannot double this cape successfully. We would invite our young men to those treasures of philosophy which the great minds of the race have left for their aid; and trust to their native strength of mind, and good sense, and their American faith in the practical side of existence to save them from being conquered by any visionary or false theory.

Mr. Wight, in his translation of Cousin, has conferred a positive benefit upon the lovers of true philosophy. In these two handsomely printed volumes we have one of the most striking of the modern systems of European speciality, rendered in a good Eng-

* Course of the History of Modern Philosophy. By M. Victor Cousin. Translated by O. W. Wight. In 2 vols. D. Appleton & Co.

lish style. The translation helps the reader, not only to obtain the thought, but, in a good measure, to appreciate the merits of a style unsurpassed in the whole range of philosophic composition. The merits of Cousin in point of culture, force, and clearness of statement, and the power to apprehend the vital elements in the great philosophical systems of ancient and modern times, are past dispute. The testimony of the ablest scholars of our own country, France, and England; and the several universities where portions of his works have become text-books; and the tribute of the greatest living philosophical critic, part of which is quoted in Mr. Wight's preface, amply sustain the confidence which the reading of these pages inspires. As a concise history of Philosophy, indicating the progress of human speculation, and vividly and truthfully presenting the central facts of different systems, the laws of their growth, and their relations to each other, we know not where to look for a more attractive or reliable book. There is no work in which the results of German thought are more clearly presented, in their connexion with the results of the mind of other nations. The ideas that fluctuate amid the colored fogs of the great German, here step out into comprehensible individuality, and assume their legitimate importance. Cousin has also that noble enthusiasm for Philosophy which is the first qualification in a teacher. He has given his life to it, and believes in its importance to mankind, as he believes in nothing else. And, certainly, at a time when so many men are occupied in inventing theories of the universe to sustain their own pet institutions and usages, it is refreshing to come upon a man who owns to no double allegiance, but is pledged only to follow the truth. He has, also, that vital fervor of thought and generosity of bearing which makes his words the best tonic for the mind. He who writes from actual insight and in a high spirit, gives his readers more than his thought, a culture by which he can test it, and a power which may be turned upon his teacher. There is, besides, in these lectures a recognition of religion and a reverence for the elements of Christian manhood, somewhat rare in the speculations of our time. Could anything arrest the native tendency of the French people to that material atheism in which are swamped their social life, their politics, and their faith, one would think that the works of this, their most religious thinker, would have done it. And he who would criticise Cousin from the point of any system of dogmatic theology should remember, that it is a nobler thing to bear testimony to the existence of God, the obligations of Duty, and the Immortality of the Soul in the land of Voltaire and Comte, than to carp at a philosophy which does not begin by acknowledging the infallibility of what any ecclesiastical body may assume to be the whole truth of God. Such qualities as these in a writer upon Philosophy—splendor of style, inimitable clearness of statement, undisputed learning, and unquestioned fairness and ability in criticism, devotion to the subject, enthusiasm, vitality, and generosity of mind and spirit, and a hearty reverence for that religion of which Philosophy is but the interpreter, we must confess belong to Cousin. And these qualities are so unmistakably his, that we do not know a writer who can be more conscientiously recommended to the youthful student of Philosophy than he.

Like every theory of the universe, Cousin's system must be received as the attempt of the finite mind to comprehend the infinite; and to say that it fails to do this, is only to repeat the old story of human limitation. We do not go to Philosophy for the complete solution of all things. The great mystery of Life is evermore around us, and the best that any man can do is to remove obstacles to that Faith which is the highest, and only healthy and permanent state of the human mind. Plato, and Aristotle, and Bacon, and Kant can only tell us, at last, that the noblest exercise of the faculties and the end of life are the worship of what is above us, and the active performance of the duty around us. The defects of Cousin's system appear to us to be the defects of the French mind. Its eagerness of generalization, its impatience at the actual limitations of ideas, its faith in a methodical clearness to which obstinate facts are too often sacrificed, and by which difficulties are decently concealed, its familiar handling of what can only be approached in a mood of reverential modesty—all these national characteristics appear at times in Cousin, and counteract that wide culture which has done much to raise him to the reach of a cosmopolitan mind. After all, he must be accepted as the best representative of the mind of modern France, and as such lies open to criticism from any man who can elevate himself above national characteristics into the common region of human speculations. But whatever may be the defects of this system, it has merits which the age is silently adopting. Eclecticism, the most peculiar feature, has virtually become the practical philosophy of the time. Much as it has been caricatured by those who would not, or abused by those who could not understand it, it yet remains the method of our best Philosophy, because the natural method of the human mind.

But we must close by again commending Mr. Wight's work, and expressing the hope that he will be encouraged to give the public the other portions of the writings of Cousin to which he alludes in a concluding note; and will continue his labors in this department of literary effort. M.

CALIFORNIA PICKINGS.*

OUR author, who, to judge by his book, appears to be a particularly wide-awake Yankee, and, according to his own account, is "an extremely choleric young man," embarks in the barque *Marietta*, at Pier No. 4, East River, acquires quite a smattering of sailors' jargon before he gets fairly to sea, passes Turk's Island in sight and in safety, and having run quite near enough Nervassa to make a small pun upon fowl-shooting, at the end of his first chapter disembarks at Chagres with a number of "jolly companions"—every man Jack of them armed and equipped as California law directs, with two revolvers, a brace of "Deringers," bowie knife, and slung shot—and immediately calls upon the Castle, where he finds his rather extensive assortment of cutlery quite *de trop*, and the fortress garrisoned simply and solely by two goats and three children.

The river boats being all engaged, our adventurers get to work to improvise an arroyo from the boards that have constituted their temporary berths. The boat construct-

ed of course must have a name, and they accordingly select "Minerva," which, considering the material employed in her construction, and that her goddess-ship was not particularly favorable to births of any kind, as she never properly had one herself, but went "ahead," in that business, in a manner quite remarkable for the slow age in which she lived—was, at least, rather incongruous.

Before embarking in the *Minerva*, our hero meets with a small accident; some thief divests him of an amount of money which he had invested in his vest, and hidden—as he thought—quite snugly away. On his voyage he introduces us to all of his companions, among whom we find as more prominent, one Mr. "Hush," who can't be kept quiet, and a certain Mr. Cooper, whom we take to be author of the numerous sketches that fill the book almost to overflowing.

The author, with a sharp eye to the beauties of nature, seems to have been much taken with the New Grenadian costume, and has something to say about it at every turn. According to him the people, both like and unlike potatoes with their jackets on, are

DRESSED AU NATUREL.

"There are fig-leaves in abundance, yet they are considered by the natives quite superfluous, they preferring the garments that Nature gave them, sometimes, however, adding a Panama hat.

"This lady is one of the most extensive landholders in New Granada, and one of the most wealthy. She lived in a thatched hovel, the sides entirely open, with the earth for a floor. Her husband was entirely naked, and seemed to devote all his time to the care of the children, of whom there were no less than a dozen, all dressed like 'Pa.' She dressed in 'Bloomer,' that is, wore half a yard of linen and a palm-leaf hat."

In following his various adventures at Panama, on the Pacific, and in California, we regret that time and space prevent our requesting the reader's company, however much they might like the fun, but a few words from the author's own mouth, and we must close.

Everybody has heard of the Arkansas preacher's baggage, that consisted of a pack of cards, "camp-meeting hymns," and pair of spurs; but we think there is something new in the following:—

CALIFORNIA 'RIG.

"He had been in the country two weeks, and in the mines half an hour. He had just returned, was travelling through town trying to sell his utensils preparatory to returning to the States. He was completely decorated with his wares, and looked like a country kitchen in disorder. He had a pair of grained boots and a smoked ham in one hand, a piece of perforated sheet-iron, a coffee-pot, and frying-pan in the other, a pair of long India-rubber boots, with pants attached, thrown over one shoulder, and a pair of blankets under the arm. Over the other shoulder was a long-handled shovel, from which suspended a camp kettle containing a pepper box, a pair of mining shoes, a piece of smoked beef, a Spanish grammar, several sea-biscuits, a pick-axe without a handle, and one pound each of sugar, coffee, and bar-soap."

How our hero toiled and milled, and dug and traded, how he went everywhere and saw everything; how, on his return, he quarrelled with the captain, and instead of knocking

* California Illustrated, including a Description of the Panama and Nicaragua Routes. By a Returned Californian. W. Holdridge.

him down and getting himself into irons, as might be expected of so "choleric a young man," he quietly sat down and wrote out a formal protest, putting his fist to paper instead of the captain's face, and dotting I's in place of blacking them, how he re-crossed by the Nicaragua route, and how he felt when, at the dead hour of the night on the 6th day of February last, he pulled at No. 3, Warren street, it boots not now to tell, but we cannot bid our amusing friend farewell without hearing his funny description of

THE CROWNING OF CUYER.

"What could have been more opportune? This was precisely the individual sought; here was a great man, a chief, in actual possession of the country—he had actually hunted possums there for a period of six months. Artisans were employed in the manufacture of presents suitable to one who seemed pointed out by the finger of Providence to wear the 'purple and ermine.' Tin-pans were immediately transformed into crowns and collars, sardine-boxes into breast-plates and stars, pill-boxes into ear and finger-rings, and extinguishers into ornaments for the nose.

"A demijohn was filled with rum—as was supposed to prevent his Majesty from fainting under the operation of putting on his first pair of pantaloons.

"Early on the following morning, the ship having been ordered to drop down the coast, the party were in motion under the pilotage of the Indian above mentioned. This poor Indian, having been driven to the shore by hunger, while making a meal of raw fish, had imparted a word, which single word was the means of bringing forth to the world a full grown king. ***** The royal encampment was in sight. The party deployed into single file and prepared to approach the presence. They took the monarch by surprise; he was stretched out at full length on a highly-scented raw hide, under the shade of a palm-tree as naked as when he came into the world. He was amusing himself by trying to get up a fight between a parrot and a young monkey, while his squaw was broiling a couple of lizards and roasting plantains for dinner.

"The interview was at first embarrassing; but after consulting the demijohn they seemed imbued with a more fraternizing spirit, and commenced conversation upon the subject of empire and the prerogative of kings. Her majesty's agent felt himself a man of importance and at first seemed somewhat patronizing, but the monarch had consulted the demijohn too often to be outdone, and as a proof of his invincibility he exhibited a huge turtle that had fallen victim to his 'machet.'

"He had climbed a tree that none of his men could climb, and caught sixteen possums all hanging by the same tail from the same limb. He had taken his biggest dog by the tail and swung him around his head three times, and declared he would do it again for their amusement.

"'Carlo' was immediately seized by the tail, but feeling a little sensitive, he curled up, bit his master, and escaped. This led to a spirited foot-race, and as Carlo dodged, the monarch slipped, his head coming into contact with the root of a tree. He seemed discouraged, and made no effort to regain his feet. The Englishman felt that he had committed a *faux pas* in allowing him free access to the demijohn, and resolved to defer negotiations until the following day.

"On the next morning the boat was again sent on shore with an invitation for the monarch to visit Her Majesty's ship. Feeling as individuals will feel next day, he graciously accepted the invitation.

"A detail of what occurred has never been made public, reporters having been excluded.

In the after part of the day an unusual demonstration was made, flags were displayed, cannon fired, and as the band struck up 'Hail to the Chief,' an individual was seen descending the side of the ship with a tin crown on his head and a pair of red pantaloons under his arm. On reaching the boat he took his position astride a barrel of rum and moved towards the shore in triumph, having been crowned 'King of the Musquito Coast.' All hail Jamaica!

In closing the volume, we must add that we cannot recommend it for the boudoir, since many of the author's acquaintances, whose sayings and doings he has freely quoted, have evidently improved very much in their swearing by a California trip; neither can we say much in its favor as a text-book for the student of "belles-lettres," but those who seek amusement, or wish for information upon the subject, will find a fund of both within its covers. If the periods be not rounded very artistically, the wit and spirit is there nevertheless.

Some sixty or seventy lithographs, which, if they owe but little to art, have certainly the merit of giving one an idea of nature, add to the interest of the book.

LEGAL MAXIMS.*

"MAXIMS," says Sir James Mackintosh, "are the condensed good sense of nations;" and this aphorism is the fitting motto of the present treatise, of which a new and separate edition, in an elegant form, has just been issued by the Messrs. Johnson. The definition of a proverb, attributed to Lord John Russell—"the wisdom of many and the wit of one"—might, with almost equal propriety, be applied even to the drier of these legal maxims, as the force of the highest style of wit in its true sense entrenches itself, not unrequently, in the rude and sometimes almost barbarous force. It is surprising, too, to see how many of the legal principles and how much of the legal science, which are the staple of our modern reports and legal treatise, are contained in *embryo* in these seeds and morsels of the law. The idea of making them the texts from which to deduce, as from infallible premises, the various conclusions and rules applicable to all ordinary cases, is one of the happiest and most successful in the range of modern book-making, in their province of jurisprudence.

Mr. Broom has collected and commented upon nearly four hundred of these Legal Maxims, and has arranged and classified them so as to make the most prominent and permanent the nucleus of extended discussion and illustration upon the various topics which they express. Thus the ancient maxim, which still survives all Revolutions and autocrats, *salus populi suprema lex* (the public welfare is the highest law) is the key-note for the enumeration of the various rules of law founded on and relating to public policy, which in constitutional governments form no inconsiderable portion of the body of jurisprudence. The rights of the sovereign power—of judicial officers—the rights of property—of married persons—the law of contracts, &c., all find their place under this arrangement; and the treatment of each separate subject becomes interesting as well as authoritative from its connexion with the an-

* A Selection of Legal Maxims, Classified and Illustrated. By Herbert Broom, Esq., Barrister at Law. Phila: T. & J. W. Johnson, Law Booksellers and Publishers, 197 Chestnut street. 1852.

cient landmarks by which its limits are defined and governed.

A lawyer may congratulate himself on finding in a treatise like this the best evidence of the stability and permanence of legal principles, while the layman who is interested in the theory of the law as matter of speculation will discover in it all the controlling data of legal science. Practically, too, the work is of no inconsiderable value, especially as a guide in the study of cases to the leading principles which ought to govern their decision.

DRESS AND BEAUTY.*

WELL! we hope one of these days the world will get right—it seems to require a great deal of reforming; but it will be observed, that the world having grown older has grown so much wiser, that it will no longer be satisfied with the old-fashioned method, but requires something on a more grand and comprehensive style. In former times we believe it was the custom to leave the regulation of one's boots to a gentleman known by the popular designation of the shoe-maker: and as to one's beauty, Heaven looked after that in its own way. But now it appears that this mode of proceeding, this humble reliance on Providence and the cobler, is voted to be altogether beneath the dignity of human nature, and entirely unworthy the grand designs of the modern philosophic "propellers." By way of exposition, merely, and without the least intention to lay to the charge of the fair authoress of the present pamphlet all the peculiarities of the school, we present the preface.

"The current of public opinion has been, for more than a year, tending to a reform in Dress, and hundreds of women confess to a desire for the Reform Costume, but have not the courage to assume it. I really do not see that anything very heroic is done by shortening the skirt a few inches—one would think the reverse, if drabbling in mud in rainy weather were the real test of heroism, presenting, as women thus do, an appearance utterly indelicate and undulylike. Women say they are 'squeamish' at being stared at; but this inconvenience is but temporary, as the experience of hundreds can testify. If one dress more than another be best adapted to my convenience or my purse, I really do not see that my neighbor has anything to do in the matter. I suspect this 'squeamishness' (for I quote a word often used by those who are afraid to think for themselves) is another way of indicating a wholesale imbecility of character, by which every woman thinks she must do precisely as every other woman has done, does, or is expected to do.

"It is much to be regretted that women will 'wear the heart upon the sleeve for daws to peek at'—will wear the soul outside of the body, to be blown upon 'by every wind of doctrine,' rather than be castled within, sure and steadfast, looking from the 'loopholes of retreat,' and judging for themselves. My neighbor's way of thinking or acting may be very well for her—it is her concern, not mine; but her way of thinking or acting will not do for me. She eats pork and sausages—I revolt from both; what then? am I to sit in judgment upon her, and call her to account for eating pork or sausages? Again, she may wear a man's hat, while I prefer a bonnet; she may wear false hair to conceal a change in the circulations, while I think the grey hair preferable; what then? shall we intermeddle, be impertinent, and render each other uncomfortable?

* Hints on Dress and Beauty. By Mrs. E. Oakes Smith. Fowlers & Wells.

ble on these grounds? Certainly not. It is simply a difference in taste, culture, or opinion; involves nothing vital to either of us, and indeed concerns only ourselves individually, and if either of us were so sensitive to the opinions of the other as to change our habit except upon clear conviction, we must be irretrievably imbecile.

"We must aim at the highest, the best, and in so doing we shall often need cast aside the old furnishing of both our minds and bodies, as things that have survived their use, and we should no more feel regret at doing this, than we do in casting off anything else that retards our way, or has ceased to be needful to us.

"It is enough to say that this reform is slowly, but surely, making its way. For travelling its benefits are so palpable that in time it will certainly be the only dress, recommended by economy, convenience, and good taste."

We do not understand Mrs. Oakes Smith, by highest and best, to mean an indefinite shortening of the outer garment. She employs the phrase altogether in a philosophical sense, and as such we accept it. And now for the practical application of the noble pre-fatory ideal.

Postulate I.—The woman and her apparel should so belong to the one to the other, that the observer would feel at once the latter was hers and hers only.

Certainly. We agree with you entirely, Mrs. Smith. Every lady should own her own dresses, and a good number of them—but whether we would go the length of having them ticketed "this is Mrs. Jones's best gingham gown," "Mrs. Johnson's brand new Gros de Naples," &c., &c., we are not prepared to decide at the present.

Postulate II.

"There is no reason why a woman should not be in the open air as freely as the other sex. She bears an encounter of wind and rain quite as well, if as properly prepared for it. She is neither sugar nor salt, to be melted, and her powers of endurance are a counterpart to those of men. Notwithstanding this she does not pass more than a quarter part so much time abroad as her male companion, and this solely on account of the disabilities of dress. She has been for ages growing into the bondage of masses of useless and cumbersome drape, till she is as helpless as the China woman with her distorted feet.

"Let her literally shake herself from the dust, and move in the 'white heights of her womanhood.'"

By all means—if the sprinkling carts are not out in Broadway—she will be under an absolute necessity to follow Mrs. Smith's directions, and "shake herself," &c.

Postulate III.—She [woman] should be beautiful as her right, and she should be also artistic.

Agreed again! Every woman has a right to be good-looking—and if she is not there is a grand mistake somewhere. We regret that Mrs. Smith has not been at the pains to enlighten ugly women as to the means of rectifying this outrage. Perhaps she may issue a second edition, in which the neglect will be amply atoned for.

Postulate IV.

"We need—aye, both men and women need—a new declaration of human rights, a new Runnymede and '76, to free us from bondage in a thousand petty forms, and from one so mean we are ashamed to name it, even that of the despotism of Fashion, the whims and caprices of milliners and tailors. We need an

earnest, joyous grasp of entire human freedom."

This sounds well, and we like it. We go in for the "entire"—54° 40'. "Freedom" is certainly desirable,—it should be "human"—"entire" by all means. We should "grasp" it, and the grasp should be "earnest" and "joyous."

For the remainder we must refer our readers to the pamphlet—where they will find mixed in with the peculiar dialect which we have "sampled," many indications of true womanly taste, just feeling, and a talent for both observation and composition.

Mrs. Smith is in herself a nobler and fairer comment on her subject than the book she has devoted to it. All of her good aspirations we cheerfully join in, but we repeat what we have had occasion to say before—that human nature is not to be treated mechanically, either as to morals, manners, or mantillas.

MARTIN'S EDITION OF MOORE AND BYRON.*

THE day for critiques upon the productions of Byron and Moore has, we trust, gone by, and their chaplets are permitted to rest undisturbed, save by those peculiarly gifted individuals—the Colons of literature—who are eternally making momentous discoveries, adding here a leaf, abstracting there a bud, and will find out one of these fine days that no such poets have ever existed, or if they ever have, that their fame is all a myth, as some very ingenious persons have lately proved Shakespeare's to be. We may indeed expect a host of biographies of the lamented melodist, and are not sure but that Mr. Abbott, after having completed his whitewashing of Napoleon, and achieved the canonization of so great a gun, may take his Lordship in hand, and turn him out a very proper Joseph, indeed, after all.

The ingenious Mr. Pollock, in his remarkable poem—so deeply venerated by the majority of old ladies and rural pedagogues, and generally admitted to be quite another thing from the "Paradise Lost"—has in a few lines unequalled for pathos or bathos—opinions being divided upon the subject—by any in the language, administered so severe a blow to the entire brood of critics that they have since cautiously avoided the game:—

"The nations gazed and wondered much, and praised,

Critics before him fell in humble plight,
Confounded fell; and made debasing signs
To catch his eye; and stretched and scelled
themselves

To bursting sigh, to utter bulky words
Of admiration vast, and many too,
Many that aimed to imitate his flight,
With weaker wing unearthly flutterings
made,

And gave abundant sport in after days."

With such a lecture before our eyes, and feeling no desire to imitate the frog in the fable, we will simply remark that the public is much indebted to Mr. Martin for his fine editions. The "Moore" contains a valuable and lengthy memoir by M. Balmano, and the true names, previously suppressed, have ousted the asterisks throughout the book.

Both works are printed exceedingly well, illustrated by a great profusion of engravings upon steel, some of them very fine, and the style of binding is rich and costly.

* The Poetical Works of Thomas Moore, as corrected by himself in 1843. With an original Memoir by M. Balmano. New York: R. Martin.
"The Poetical Works of Lord Byron." New York: R. Martin.

APPLETON'S NEW SPANISH DICTIONARY.*

A SPANISH DICTIONARY of the fulness of the present work has long been needed by students of that tongue. Prof. Velazquez has executed an important task with commendable care and industry. The valuable work by Seane, on which the present is based, was published twenty years ago, and has therefore become antiquated by the mere lapse of time. These twenty years, it must also be remembered, have been marked by many improvements in grammatical and philological research. Professor Velazquez has availed himself of this circumstance, and has substituted for the orthography of Seane that of the last edition of the Dictionary of the Spanish Academy. He has also added more than eight thousand new articles, many of them words which, though in familiar use in Central and South America, are unknown to the parent Castilian, but are important in a work of this kind, from our commercial relations with those countries. Care has also been taken to include all words in use in the arts and sciences, and also all nautical and mercantile phrases, the work being, of course, designed for the merchant as well as the critical student of the language. Brief Spanish and English grammars are also prefixed to the respective parts of the work.

The volume is beautifully printed in a somewhat larger type than is usually employed in dictionaries, no trifling advantage to the many who will turn over its pages.

HAWTHORNE.

WE find, in the Boston *Transcript*, the following preface to the "Blithedale Romance," the forthcoming work of the author of the "Scarlet Letter":—

"In the 'Blithedale' of this volume many readers will, probably, suspect a faint and not very faithful shadowing of Brook Farm, in Roxbury, which (now little more than ten years ago) was occupied and cultivated by a company of socialists. The author does not wish to deny that he had this community in his mind, and that (having had the good fortune, for a time, to be personally connected with it) he has occasionally availed himself of his actual reminiscences, in the hope of giving a more life-like tint to the fancy sketch in the following pages. He begs it to be understood, however, that he has considered the institution itself as not less fairly the subject of fictitious handling than the imaginary personages whom he has introduced there. His whole treatment of the affair is altogether incidental to the main purpose of the romance; nor does he put forward the slightest pretensions to illustrate a theory, or elicit a conclusion, favorable or otherwise, in respect to socialism.

"In short, his present concern with the socialist community is merely to establish a theatre, a little removed from the highway of ordinary travel, where the creatures of his brain may play their phantasmagorical antics, without exposing them to too close a comparison with the actual events of real lives. In the old countries, with which fiction has long been conversant, a certain conventional privilege seems to be awarded to the romancer; his work is not put exactly side by side with nature; and he is allowed a license with regard to every-day probability, in view

* A Pronouncing Dictionary of the Spanish and English Languages, founded on Seane's Edition of Neumann and Baretti. By Mariano Velazquez de la Cadena. D. Appleton & Co.

of the improved effects which he is bound to produce thereby. Among ourselves, on the contrary, there is as yet no such Fairy Land, so like the real world that, in a suitable remoteness, one cannot well tell the difference, but with an atmosphere of strange enchantment, beheld through which the inhabitants have a propriety of their own.

"This atmosphere is what the American romancer needs. In its absence, the beings of imagination are compelled to show themselves in the same category as actually living mortals; a necessity that generally renders the paint and pasteboard of their composition but too painfully discernible. With the idea of partially obviating this difficulty (the sense of which has already pressed very heavily upon him), the author has ventured to make free with his old and affectionately remembered home at Brook Farm, as being certainly the most romantic episode of his own life,—essentially a day-dream, and yet a fact,—and thus offering an available foothold between fiction and reality. Furthermore, the scene was in good keeping with the personages whom he desired to introduce.

"These characters, he feels it right to say, are entirely fictitious. It would indeed (considering how few amiable qualities he distributes among his imaginary progeny) be a most grievous wrong to his former excellent associates, were the author to allow it to be supposed that he has been sketching any of their likenesses. Had he attempted it, they would at least have recognised the touches of a friendly pencil. But he has done nothing of the kind. The self-concentrated Philanthropist; the high-spirited Woman, bruising herself against the narrow limitations of her sex; the weakly Maiden, whose tremulous nerves endow her with sibylline attributes; the Minor Poet beginning life with strenuous aspirations, which die out with his youthful fervor;—all these might have been looked for at Brook Farm, but by some accident never made their appearance there.

"The author cannot close his reference to this subject, without expressing a most earnest wish that some one of the many cultivated and philosophic minds, which took an interest in that enterprise, might now give the world its history. Ripley, with whom rests the honorable paternity of the institution, Dana, Dwight, Channing, Burton, Parker, for instance,—with others, whom he dares not name, because they veil themselves from the public eye,—among these is the ability to convey both the outward narrative and the inner truth and spirit of the whole affair, together with the lessons which those years of thought and toil must have elaborated, for the belief of future experimentalists. Even the brilliant Howadji might find as rich a theme in his youthful reminiscences of Brook Farm, and a more novel one,—close at hand as it lies,—than those which he has since made so distant a pilgrimage to seek, in Syria, and along the current of the Nile."

In the Boston correspondence of the "*Maine Farmer*" a letter gives us the annexed sub-historical comment on the subject matter and treatment of the new romance:

Mr. Hawthorne's new work was completed on the first of the month, and will soon be published. It is said that it is a serial story, and that the author gives in it the result of his experience in an attempt that he made, with several other persons, to realize a more perfect mode of life than is known to the

every day modes of existence. You have heard of the Brook Farm community, of course; but some of your readers may require to be told that it was a sort of Yankee Skaneateles affair, only that the people who composed it were of a class much superior to those who sought to discover the Utopia under the guidance of John A. Collins. They were elegant scholars, who dreamed of something better than life as it is. George Ripley was the chief of the number, and Mr. Hawthorne was not the least of his associates. But scholarship, like rosy lips, must be fed—a painful fact, like many other things that take the charm from life; and somehow or other, the undertaking did not flourish much better than that which the rougher Collins endeavored to carry out. I remember that when the Skaneateles affair was at its height, that community was visited by a blue-stocking young lady from this State—neat and graceful as a cat—of the most unimpeachable cleanliness, who, on her return home, was asked if Collins's disciples did not live like pigs in clover. "Very much like pigs," was the reply, "but very little in clover." It was different at West Roxbury, in which town Brook Farm was situated. The communists there were mainly ladies and gentlemen, whose ideality kept them from becoming disgusting. Mr. Hawthorne left the place before it came to an end. I believe it was sold under a sheriff's order—a not very poetical ending to a romantic attempt to improve upon ordinary life. Mr. Hawthorne is reported to have brought his satire to bear upon the system, as he has indirectly done in "*The House of the Seven Gables*."

The Great Harmonia concerning the Seven Mental States. By Andrew Jackson Davis. Vol. III. Boston: Mussey & Co.—"I desire your attention," says Andrew Jackson Davis, "to the Age which has dawned in the souls of a few of us, but which is destined to be the borial crown of all nations." What the borial crown may be it is impossible to conjecture, unless it alludes to the painful impressions produced by reading the psychological books from "the souls of a few of us," in which respect the bore is undoubtedly produced by an augur, or as this book calls it "seer" of the first magnitude. "This," continues Andrew Jackson Davis, "is Republicanism! In this age there is no authority but Nature and Reason—surely this is self-evident. Even now, reason is employed to read the Bible, to interpret its sentences, to amplify texts into sermons, to deliver those discourses—to manage all things, in fact, in Church and State; because a person, who is not blessed with a full share of intelligence, is never intrusted with any important office in either institution." We deny the fact. A man may hold an office with a very small share of understanding, just as a man may write a big book under the same lamentable privation. But fortunately the Church and State are quite independent of such contingencies. Neither, probably, could exist a year if they were not supported by something more certain than the pure exercise of reason by any individuals. They are positive institutions, and of the most decided authority.

Summer Gleanings; or, Sketches and Incidents of a Pastor's Vacation. By John Todd, D.D. Collected and arranged by his daughter. Northampton: Hopkins, Bridgman & Co.—There is much of interest in this volume in the revolutionary sketches, family scenes, and personal adventure in the search for romantic scenery, which form the topics of these household stories. They are a series of reminiscen-

ces of the active career of a clergyman, placed frequently among scenes for novel observation, and are narrated by a daughter, from her father's conversation, in a style of considerable animation.

The Riches that Bring no Sorrow. By the Rev. Erskine Neale, M.A. Philadelphia: Hooker.—The illustrations of the title of this volume are the lives of noted wealthy personages of England, whose use or abuse of money is sufficiently calculated to attract the attention of the reader. Besides various local characters, provincial personages, misers, and money getters, we have the story of the Marquis of Hertford and the Duke of Queensbury. The Rev. Mr. Neale grapples boldly with his subject. The facts of his book alone—it being a weakness of our human nature in its present civilization to be greatly interested in the story of the accumulation of immense sums of money—are striking and valuable records; his moral is unquestionable.

Overing; or, the Heir of Wycherley, an Historical Romance. By Eldred Grayson, Esq. Cornish, Lampport & Co.—This is an American tale, the scene of which is laid at Newport during the early years of the Revolution. It is written with spirit, and possesses much interest. The incidents of the latter portion are somewhat too much crowded together, and the humorous passages of the book are not always in the best taste. One of the most striking scenes of the book, that in which at a large entertainment given on a summer evening by a gentleman of wealth, the mansion takes fire, and the host orders the supper tables to be removed to the lawn, where the festivities are continued in sight of the blazing of the perishing edifice, is stated in the author's preface to be taken from the columns of a newspaper of the period.

A Peep at "Number Five;" or, a Chapter in the Life of a City Pastor. By H. Trusta. Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co. *The Angel over the Right Shoulder.* By the same. Andover: Draper.—A story founded on the domestic life and associations of a New England clergyman is not unlikely to prove an attractive volume among the fictions of the day—for there is probably no character in the world who furnishes a larger amount of gossip to a considerable body of people, without satiety for a longer time. This is all exhibited when the occupant of "Number Five" receives a call to another congregation, which he refuses, and which is the closing chapter of this narrative, which is evidently drawn from the life. The apologue of the Angel is in a good kindly Christmas vein.

The Culture of the Grape, and Wine-making. By Robert Buchanan. With an Appendix, containing Directions for the Cultivation of the Strawberry, by N. Longworth. Cincinnati: Moore & Anderson.—This book is a full account of the processes in the cultivation of the grape and wine manufacture of Ohio. Its information is timely, when the country is looking with interest to this new development of industry, and, we may add, aid to health and civilization. The business of the manufacture is detailed with exactness. By the general reader, the communications of Mr. Longworth to the Horticultural Society, Cincinnati, full of information and anecdote, will be read with interest. There are also many facts connected with the history of this product in the United States.

A Book for a Corner. By Leigh Hunt. Putnam.—A delightful volume in the author's best vein of book-tasting; as if, to employ a figure suggested by Mr. Longworth's cellars and "sparkling Catawba" in our last notice, the goodly authors of English Literature were so many well laden, richly-filled butts and puncheons, among which Leigh Hunt

nimbly figures, with spigot, gimlet, and goblet. It is a book of selections in prose and verse, with comment, and a general introduction; and it is not only pleasant in itself, but a key to a greater enjoyment afterwards, in the full study of the agreeable authors whom we peruse piecemeal in "extract."

Chambers's Pocket Miscellany. Volume II. Boston: Gould & Lincoln.—A second installment of the sensible matters of fact and story from the storehouse of *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*.

The Solar System; a Descriptive Treatise upon the Sun, Moon, and Planets, including an account of all the recent Discoveries. By J. Russell Hind. Putnam.—The commencement of a cheap series of "Popular and Practical Science." This first volume is well chosen, includes the last results of the science of astronomy, and is executed in a style of commendable neatness at an exceedingly low price.

The Philosophy of Living. By Herbert Mayo, M.D. Phila.: Lindsay & Blakiston.—A new edition of an English work, with many practical suggestions concerning the arts of health, within the reach of all who have the opportunities of pure air, good diet, and are willing to obey the laws of enlightened temperance. As every man is said to be a fool or a physician at forty, a book of this kind may be recommended to those who would avoid the weaker side of the alternative.

New York and the White Mountains; with a complete Map, &c. By William Guild. Boston: Bradbury & Guild.—A well prepared travellers' railway manual, exhibiting fully the eastern routes to the White Mountains.

Indestructible Books for Children. Ticknor & Co.—An excellent little series, a reprint of Cundall's fine art primers, where the good taste implanted is worthy of being more "indestructible" than the neat material on which the lessons are imprinted.

The Electra of Sophocles. Athens, Ga.: White & Bro.—A literal prose translation, for the use of students, in a cheap pamphlet form.

MARKS AND REMARKS.

LIEUT. F. M. MAURY has addressed a Memorial to Congress in behalf of a southern line of Ocean Steamers, from Norfolk or Charleston, to open the commerce of the Amazon. As usual with his papers, Mr. Maury superadds to dry, technical statement a brilliant coloring worthy of the pages of an Alexander Humboldt. After exhibiting the course of the South American currents compelling vessels from the Amazon, "to pass by our own doors," he thus describes the Gulf, with its future resources:—

"If we regard the whole continent of America at one view, we observe that in the equatorial regions it is nearly cut in twain to receive an arm of the sea, skirted on the east by the chain of islands, the Great and Little Antilles, which extend from the peninsula of Florida on the north to the mouth of the Orinoco on the south; that this land-locked arm of the sea is separated from the Pacific on the west by a narrow neck of continent called 'the Isthmus.' On the north this same arm of the sea receives the drainage from the valley of the Rio Grande, the Mississippi, and the Alabama rivers; on the south the surplus waters of the Amazon, the Orinoco, the Magdalena, and Atrato are emptied into it also. This sheet of salt water may therefore be treated of as an expansion of the Mississippi on the North, and of the Amazon on the south.

"Regarding this magnificent marine basin as a commercial receptacle, we may search the world in vain for another such feature in physical geography wherewith to compare it. It is unique. And for its commercial capabilities, it must for ever remain unsurpassed and unequalled.

"It has a semi-continent on the north, and another on the south. When it is seed-time on one side of this continental receptacle of agricultural and commercial wealth, it is harvest-time on the other. Being between the two hemispheres, with their opposite seasons, it will have a round of crops always in the market. Six months after the first delivery of the new crop from the north, a fresh crop from the south will be in the act of coming forward. The Mississippi River gives drainage and a commercial outlet to the largest and most fertile valley of the northern hemisphere. The river basin of the Amazon (for the Orinoco is connected with it by a natural canal, and therefore belongs to the system) is the largest and most fertile in the world.

"The Mississippi, taking its rise near the parallel of 50 deg. north latitude, runs south. At every step it changes its latitude; with its latitude its climates are changed; with its climates the productions on its banks are also changed. Consequently the trader, as he descends the Mississippi, beholds at every turn some new article of produce—some fresh variety of merchandise offering for commerce. And by the time he crosses the tropic of Cancer, and bounds out through the commercial mouth of this river upon the blue waters of the Atlantic ocean, he will have crossed the climate and the region for every agricultural staple, and ranged through all the capacities of field and forest in the northern hemisphere, from barley, furs, and peltries, down to the list of tropical productions.

"The Amazon, on the other hand, runs east, and its navigable tributaries, flowing both from the north and the south, push the intertropical varieties from field and forest, far down towards the circle of Capricorn, in the other hemisphere.

"The Mississippi has but reached the sugar-producing latitude, where it expands out upon the Gulf of Mexico. The Amazon takes up the list where the Mississippi leaves it; and, commencing with sugar, it yields in great profusion, and of fine quality, coffee, cochineal, cocoa, cotton, tobacco, hemp, indigo, India-rubber, wax, gums, drugs, and resins. With cabinet woods and dye-stuffs of great beauty and of infinite variety, this splendid river basin completes the commercial round by the addition to the above list of many other articles from the field, the forest, and the mine, of rare value or great worth. In the commercial circle, these two river basins are the supplements of each other—what one lacks, the other one has to spare.

"The foundations of commerce rest upon diversity of climate; for without diversity of climate there can be no diversity of productions, and consequently no variety of produce, which begets barter, and thus gives rises to commerce.

"The Continent of Europe, extending from the Polar Basin, reaches no further to the south than the parallel of 36 deg. north; consequently none of the climates due any of the parallels between 36 deg. north and the Equator are to be found in Europe; and

if not the climates, certainly not the productions.

"Now it is a fact in physical geography that is worthy of remark in this connexion—where the Continent of Europe ends, at that degree of latitude begin the river basins of India, which, extending from the parallel of 36 deg. north far down into the intertropical regions of this hemisphere, have enriched with their produce and their commerce every nation of Europe that has ever ventured abroad with her merchantmen in search of it. And why? Simply because the latitudes and the climates, and consequently the productions of India, were not to be found in Europe; and the Europeans wanting them, sent to India for them. In like manner the people of India wanted the productions of Europe. Hence barter and the foundation of all commerce may be referred to difference of latitude and climate.

"But to exchange the produce and the merchandise of the north frigid and north temperate for the north torrid zone, the European had to encounter a tedious and dangerous navigation, and he had withal to compass such a distance that the time taken for his vessel to go and to come once, occupied the full year.

"On the other hand we have at our very doors this great valley of the Amazon, with all, and more than all, in the climates and soils and agricultural capabilities of India twice told.

"The distance under modern improvements of navigation, from our southern ports to the mouth of the Amazon, is not as many days as India used to be months from Europe.

"The valley of the Mississippi extends, according to the computation of physical geographers, over an area of 982,000 square miles; that of the Amazon and its confluent, with the Orinoco as one of them, embraces the vast area more than twice over. The great Amazonian valley is said by the same authority to cover an area of 'upwards of two millions of square miles in extent.

"The Mississippi River is computed to afford a littoral navigation of 15,000 miles in length; some put it down as high as 20,000. But the Amazon and its majestic tributaries wind through an inland navigation to such an extent that, if stretched out in one line, its length would be enough to encircle the earth three times. It is set down as high as 80,000 miles. The Amazon is said to be navigable for vessels of the largest class up to the foot of the Andes. The *Pennsylvania* 74 may ascend that high.

"And so traversed with navigable streams and water-courses is the great Atlantic slope of South America, that there are in it no less than 1500 miles of 'furos,' or natural canals, through which it is practicable for vessels to cross from one river over into another.

"Were this valley settled upon and subdued to cultivation, 'the Indies,' in a commercial sense, would thereby be lifted up and placed at our doors, for all the productions of the East flourish there; and so jealous and afraid of such a result was Portugal, in her day of East India possession and commerce, that by a royal ordinance it became unlawful to cultivate in the great Amazon basin a single drug, spice, or plant of East India growth or production."

The following letter was written by Carlyle, in reply to a circular inviting a meeting of book-wrights to convene at Chapman's

publishing house to agree upon such an expression of opinion "as may hasten the removal of the present trade restrictions on the commerce of literature." Dickens presided at the meeting:

"CHELSEA, May 3, 1852.

"Sir:—Unluckily I shall not be able to attend your meeting on Tuesday evening, but I can have no hesitation in testifying my concurrence with the object of it, which I understand in brief to be free trade in books, or the first step in a course leading straight towards that. Free trade in respect of books, and indeed of most other objects, is by no means the ultimatum one aspires to, or the perfect condition that will satisfy the world's want in the matter; very far from that in many cases; and the case in literature, farther than in any other whatsoever. But surely, in all cases, and in that of literature too, free trade is better than trade unjustly crippled by monopolies which are merely blind and greedy: in present circumstances, free trade were a clear improvement; and moreover, in the critical disposition of the world, it is a first stage through which all faulty things must pass, and only beyond and after trial of which can any progress that will prove true and lasting be looked for.

"For the rest, I fear there are few branches of human industry—and most clearly literature is not one of them—in which the shopkeeper spirit (so we may call it for the sake of definition) will suffice to regulate 'production and distribution' according to the world's real want and interest; in regard to very many there is perpetually needed a generous merchant spirit (which it may be feared free trade and active competition will not much tend to develop among us); and in regard to some, there is needed a spirit higher than any kind of merchandise, and not looking to profit and loss for advice at all. Now certainly, beyond all other objects, literature in its higher forms belongs to this latter class; to these two latter classes it belongs in all forms of it that have any value to mankind; for the mere shopkeeper spirit, looking only to the visible vicinity, and sharpened into ever greater eagerness for immediate returns, is smitten with eternal incompetence in even the finance of literature, and can do no good whatever there that would not otherwise be done, and does immensities of mischief there which perhaps might otherwise remain undone.

"All this is true even of the finance of literature: and, alas! literature has many elements besides the financial, and far more important to it than the financial, in regard to all of which it would so gladly cease to be anarchic, and become well ordered and well governed, if it only could. Truly, to consider how society at present stands related to literature may well fill the thinking man with astonishment, with anxiety, almost with terror. The duties of society towards literature in those new conditions of the world are becoming great, vital, inexpressibly intricate, little capable of being done or understood at present, but all-important to be understood and done, if society will continue to exist with it, and it along with society.

"From the highest business of spiritual culture and the most sacred interests of men, down to the lowest economic and ephemeral concerns where 'free press' rules supreme, society may see itself, with all its sovereignties and parliaments, depending on the thing it calls literature, and bound, under incalcula-

ble penalties, to very many duties in regard to that!—of which duties, I perceive, finance alone, and free trade alone, will by no means be found to be the same. But such considerations lie far beyond our present business, and must not be more than alluded to here.

"What alone concerns us here is to remark that the present system of book publishing discharges none of these duties, less and less makes even the appearance of discharging them; and indeed, as I believe, is, by the nature of the case, incapable of ever, in any perceptible degree, discharging any of them in the times that now are. A century ago, there was in the bookselling guild—if never any royalty of spirit, as how could such be looked for there?—yet a spirit of solid merchanthood, which had its value in regard to the prosaic facts of literature, and is ever to be thankfully remembered there. Of this solid merchant spirit, if we take the virtualizing and furnishing of such an enterprise as Samuel Johnson's English Dictionary for its English feat (as perhaps we justly may), and many a 'Memoires,' 'Encyclopedia Britannica,' &c., in this country and in others for its lower, we must gratefully admit the real usefulness, respectability, and merit to the world.

"But in later times, owing to many causes which have been active, not on the book guild alone, such spirit has long been diminishing, and has now as good as disappeared, without hope of resuscitation in that quarter. The spirit of the book trade, it is mournfully evident, is that of modern trade generally, no better and no worse—a hand-to-mouth spirit, incapable of ever again paying for even a Johnson's Dictionary; not what I can call a merchant spirit, but (on the great or on the small scale) a shopkeeper one. Such is the melancholy fact, so far as my experience and observation have taught me to form an opinion. If my vote is inquired of in the matter, I grieve to say, and am not conscious of either anger or of favor in saying, it is authentically this which leads me—and, indeed, has long since led me—to infer that the publishing guild, taking large wages for doing indispensable work, and quite omitting to do it, is in no safe or lasting position before the public, and will prove incapable of standing, unless it can escape being inquired into.

"If the public itself (as I by no means believe, or ever believed) is adequate, by free trade or otherwise, to remunerate literature, the public ought to have at least a chance of trying to do it. The present system, by which above one half of the selling price of a book ('from 55 to 65 per cent., including advertisements') is paid over to a man or set of men, not who write it or print it, or bind it, or make paper for it, but who show it across the counter and draw in the money, remains, to all who look at it in this point of view, one of the most astonishing ever seen in human commerce, and seems to me, in these days, destined to speedy abrogation when once the public has got eye on it.

"My own interest in the business, I confess, is not of a lively nature; nor are my hopes for the world, from such a revolution, what they once might have been; but such is, and has long been, my view of the case now come in hand. No duty being done to literature but a shopkeeping one, let us have at least the eligible kind of shopkeeping—your 55 per cent. reduced gradually (as we find it in America just now) to 15 or to

10, with books about half the price they now bear, and with 20 times, or 40 times, as many readers to them as now—after that, we shall see.

"In haste, I remain, sir, yours very truly,
(Signed) "T. CARLYLE.

"John Chapman, Esq., Publisher, 142 Strand."

Apropos to some recent comments in this journal on the delusions of Mr. Malmsey Buttridge in respect to his wines, a correspondent drops us the following:—

WEDNESDAY—Nov. 6.

At 11 o'clock, in front of their store.

EXECUTOR'S SALE OF WINE.—115 cases (the cases three dozen each) of Count de Surville's Madeira, Sherry, and Port Wine, imported into Baltimore in 1838, bottled and recocked in 1848, with great care. The above wines were selected and imported on private account, without regard to cost, and represented of superior quality. It is in iron bound packages, and the bottles papered and sealed.

The above wine was offered for sale at Messrs. — in November, 1850, but the bidding not having exceeded \$2 per dozen, it was withdrawn. It was immediately transferred to other hands, and as the public were not aware who the "Count" was, it was deemed necessary to inform them that he was J. Bonaparte, brother of Napoleon; quite an excitement was produced, and a greater part of the wines realized \$9 and \$10 per dozen. After a third sale it seemed to drag heavily, and the price fell to \$5 per dozen; at the "death," exquisite connoisseurs of Mr. Buttridge's school, with some shrewd millionaires, came in and cleared off the remainder of the lot. Some more wine of this description sold recently, at the sale of "a racing stud," so high as \$18—the assumption being that the owner of a horse worth \$1000 must certainly have wine in proportion!!

FACTS.

The wines referred to are prepared by a man in an Eastern city, and brought to New York for sale—they become "*caput mortuum*" in four or five months, or perhaps a less time. The profits on the sale are nearly equal to mock jewelry.

Two gallons wine (the bottles being six to the gallon) at 50 cts. . . .	\$1 00
One doz. bottles 60, corks (<i>inferiors</i>) 5, labor and cartage 15. . . .	80
Packages (old timber preferred). . . .	10

Actual cost per dozen. . . . \$1 90

Nugat Germanitrat.

FOR THE LITERARY WORLD, BY THE REV. C. T. BROOKS.

I.

ADVICE AND ACTION.

FROM THE GERMAN.

He who gives much advice and little aid,
When on thy heart woe's heavy load is laid,
Is one who sweeps a cobweb from thy wall,
And leaves the great black spider after all.

II.

EPITAPH ON SILVIUS.

DITTO.

Here Silvius lies, who ne'er a single deed,
Long as he lived on earth, for nothing did;
That men for nothing can this writing read,
Disturbs his bones beneath the coffin-lid.

III.

REMORSE.

FROM THE GERMAN OF COUNT FLATEN.

I roused myself up in the night—in the night—
I felt myself drawn from my pillow;
The streets were deserted—the watchman in sight—
My footsteps went light

In the night—In the night—
Through the Gothic-arched gate to the
billow.

The mill-stream went roaring, and flashed in
its flight—

I leaned from the parapet, yearning;
The waves in the chasm were mocking my
sight,

As they glided so light
In the night—in the night—
Not one of them ever returning.

Above me the stars, a vast wilderness bright,
In silence melodious were wheeling,
And with them the moon in her tranquilized
height,

Their silvery light,
In the night—in the night—
Through measureless distance came steal-
ing.

And upward I gazed in the night—in the
night—

And down on the billow, so fleeting,
Ah, woe on thee! how have thy days taken
flight!

Now softly! throb light,
In the night—in the night—
Thou bosom remorsefully beating!

JOHN HOWARD PAYNE.

THE newspapers announce the death of John Howard Payne, the celebrated actor and dramatic author, at Tunis, we believe, the seat of his consulate in Africa. His birth and distinguished early reputation, and many of the associations of his later life, belong to the history of this city. He was born, as we learn from a biographical notice in Dunlap's "History of the American Stage in the City of New York," June 9, 1792. His father removing to Boston, some address which the son delivered on a public occasion from the stage is said to have fixed in the boy a love for the drama. It must have been a very early appearance, for in his thirteenth year we find him at New York again, a clerk in a counting-house, and editor of a weekly paper, the "Thespian Mirror." Coleman, of the "Evening Post," in his journal of Jan. 24, 1806, thus notices the "prodigy"—"I conversed with him for an hour; inquired into his history, the time since he came to reside in this city; and his object in setting on foot the publication in question. His answers were such as to dispel all doubts as to any imposition, and I found it required an effort, on my part, to keep up the conversation in so choice a style as his own." Having been placed at school at Schenectady, with Doctor Nott, "Master Payne" published a semi-weekly paper, "The Pastime."

In emulation of Master Betty, we find him making his debut as a "youthful Roscius" in his sixteenth year, in 1809, at the Park theatre in this city, as Young Norval. His small size and handsome face suggested a still more youthful personage. His talent for recitation in private circles had been previously recognised in Philadelphia, where his displays of this kind had attracted attention. He next appeared in Boston, and the spring of the same year played a second engagement in New York, acting Hastings, Octavian, Frederick Fribourg, Rolla, Edgar, and Hamlet, with decidedly profitable returns to the house. In 1812 or 1813 Payne went to England, and appeared successfully at Drury Lane in his twenty-first year. The painter West interested

himself in his success, and pronounced his action on the stage graceful, and his voice fine. He played in the provinces and in Ireland with success. In 1826 he is in London, editing the "Opera Glass," and in communication with the French actor Talma.

His London career produced a host of dramas, chiefly, if not altogether, adaptations or translations from the French, "The Lancers," "Oswald of Athens," "Peter Smink, or Which is the Miller," "Therese," "I was I," "Adeline," "Ali Pacha," "Clari," "King Charles II.," &c., names which old playgoers will remember among popular afterpieces on the bills. "Charles II." is still produced. Charles Kemble frequently acted in it. The universal air of "Home, Sweet Home," which gives Payne a hold upon the affections of the world, occurs in "Clari, or the Maid of Milan."

Brutus, the popular stage play on this subject, which we see occasionally acted by Booth, is an adaptation by Payne from the works of previous writers, among others Nat Lee. He announced his method to be "the adoption of the conceptions and language of his predecessors, wherever they seemed likely to strengthen the plan which he had prescribed for himself." The *Quarterly Review* of 1820 had some severe comments on this production.

When Mr. Payne returned to America some fifteen or twenty years since, he issued the prospectus of a magnificent magazine, to include the literature of the Old and New worlds—under the fanciful melodramatic title of *Jam-jeham-nema*, some pretty conceit of an oriental gem. He expended considerable energy on this affair, but it, of course, never came to publication. He was a contributor to the early volumes of the *Democratic Review*, of some gossiping sketches of East Hampton, L. I.

His various literary plans and devices will doubtless afford much anecdote for his biography. We next find him receiving the post of United States Consul to Tunis, a position from which he was recalled and to which he was subsequently restored some two years since—an official station which he held at the time of his death.

Payne, it is well known, preserved a great mass of books and papers, which from his varied foreign and American career must afford much matter of interest. He talked, at one time, of publishing his Autobiography or Recollections, when we remember he placed in our hands, for a moment, a bound volume containing some valuable letters by Charles Lamb and Coleridge, the fruits of his English career.

Mr. Payne was much endeared to his circle of personal friends. His frame was delicate and bore the marks of ill health, when we saw him just previous to his return to Africa.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PROGRESS OF DESPOTISM.—STUDY OF HISTORY.

LOUIS NAPOLEON has proscribed the study of history from the French Schools, and he is right. History is a nourishing science. Mathematics and Logic clear the intellect. Natural Sciences expand and incidentally elevate it; but History nurses the soul; it yields a pabulum fit for bringing up men and rearing citizens. Personal relations and individual interests, party feelings, associations, and

passions often seriously vary our opinions of men, events, and measures of the time, and may make us forget that there is a running justice through all that happens which brings matters to their deserved ends and awards; but there are very few minds so vicious that they do not gladly seize upon virtue and greatness recorded in history, and unconnected with our personal interests. Why else should even the worst tyrants relish to compare themselves with the best men in history? Louis Napoleon himself would not willingly compare himself to Doctor Francia, whatever others may feel inclined to do.

History accustoms the mind to perceive the continuity of states, societies, and mankind, and more than any other knowledge inspires the soul with the conviction that the Present is not all, but that we belong also to the past and the Future. It is this that forms the strengthening element in the study of history. Let people live but for the day—let them worship the words on the tomb of Sardanapalus—"Eat, drink, and lust, the rest is nothing,"—and the despot need not fear their molestations. But if citizens are wanted, and not fast livers, if freemen are to support and continue good institutions, and if a fair institutional liberty is to be supported, to be enjoyed, and to be handed over to succeeding generations, history must be largely infused into every plan of education. It has more nutriment than any other branch. Free nations produce the great historians, and in turn, history helps rearing free nations. It feeds with a food that produces strong men, because it nourishes character, by making familiar with what is high, lasting, great, and blessed by fellow men. Affinities find each other, and the character, in history fully developed, quickens what lies undeveloped in the young. Chatham loved to the end of his great life to spend his spare hours with Plutarch.

All those who may be called the quickeners of nations—their orators, their statesmen, their reformers, their commanding authors, their poets, their teachers—have ever been lovers of history, and have been delighted in walking through its majestic halls where the statues of the past are kept, in solemn and instructive array.

Louis Napoleon is as consistent, or as the French themselves would say, as logical, in throwing off the study of history, as the ruler of the Lydians was who forbade them to wear arms.

"FREE-STONE"—AUTHORS—PUBLISHERS.

To the Editors of the *Literary World*:

GENTLEMEN:—Your correspondent, Mr. Jotham Carhart, remarks that "authors, instead of riding on the backs of publishers, are ridden by them, and that they must be asses indeed, if, with the whole power of the press in their hands, they allow themselves to be used after this fashion."

This remark is so shrewd and sensible that I cannot help expressing my admiration of Mr. Carhart's sagacious benevolence. How authors, with such a power at their command, can allow themselves to be humbugged by publishers is past my comprehension. Why don't they form themselves into an Anti-publishers' League—both defensive and aggressive?—or, better still, why don't they use the Press, and put down publishers altogether, as Sir Peter Laurie put down suicide? Why don't they get the

grand jury to suppress publishers as an intolerable nuisance? or, better than all (and is it not marvellous that they should be so slow in appreciating their own interest?), why do not authors become publishers themselves, and take possession at once of the "free-stone stores," and get themselves "lodged in those sumptuous quarters, the splendid mansions which we have heard of in the neighborhood of the Fifth Avenue or Union Square?" Is it to be endured that all the free-stone is to be monopolized by those sordid, grasping publishers, and that our great authors are to be "tenants of third-rate hotels or of the city almshouse?" No, gentlemen! let the cry be—"Authors to the rescue!"—let authors take the publishing business into their own hands, and extinguish the monopolists. Then, should we have the true millennium of literature: then, such an occurrence as the rejection of a MS. would be unheard of. Then, our authors and authorings, no longer timidly dancing attendance upon the grinding nabobs; no longer in danger of the summary or tardy rejection of their manuscripts, may step up boldly to the bureau of the Authors' League, and receive almost unlimited piles of gold, with which free-stone and sumptuous quarters may be at once secured. The notes of the League would command half the floating capital in Wall street; and the authors of anything, from a pamphlet to a quarto, would be enabled at once to "hob-hob with the magnates of the city," and "cut a pretty considerable figure,"—while the ex-publishers might, with poetic justice, be banished to those "third-rate hotels," or to "the city almshouse." [Mr. Carhart should follow up his valuable suggestions, and immortalize himself, like another Peter the Hermit, by leading a crusade against the wicked pirates, who now ride on the backs of poor authors, and live upon their brains.]

But seriously, Messrs. Editors, is it not evident, on the slightest reflection, that most of these tirades about the wickedness and wealth of publishers is arrant nonsense—transparent absurdity?

I will yield to no one in sincere and honest respect for the true rights of authors. I believe that, in many instances, they do not receive full justice from their publishers—and in a great many more, their just claims are not recognised by that more important tribunal, "the public." I am well aware that publishers have, in many instances, been successful; in a few, they have become independent. What then?

There are in the United States about 1500 booksellers, properly so called. Of these, perhaps 200 are to a greater or less extent publishers of books. Of these, how many think you have achieved independence and "free-stone?" A hundred? fifty? thirty? I will venture to say less than twenty. Suppose the whole of them had been alike successful in avoiding dull books and publishing brilliant ones, and had thus become rich instead of bankrupt—is it a necessary consequence that, in doing so, they have cheated authors? Which is most for the interest of authors, that publishers should be prosperous and pay their notes, or that they should break down occasionally, with small dividends?

There are usually two sides to a question and to a trial-balance; and if the records of the book trade, all over the world, were fairly and fully transcribed, I imagine they would

tell a tale somewhat at variance with this popular notion, that the lion's share is always the publisher's.

The last author's account I had occasion to adjust—with a lady—proved clearly that, instead of a profit, her book had been a loss, to a considerable amount; and yet the author claimed and was paid the full amount of her copyright, thus increasing the loss to about one third of the whole cost of the book; and yet, probably, the lady goes abroad secretly, if not openly, angry with me, because she receives such a miserable pittance.

Publications which prove really successful and remunerative, are lamentably few in comparison with the whole number of ventures. Probably most of the anti-publisher croakers would marvel a little, if they could see a true picture of the whole story.

One publishing firm can be mentioned as an example of what a fair average of intelligence, industry, and economy, under favorable circumstances, may achieve after twelve years' application, with a good deal of hard work. Each of the partners (so their friends said) ought to have built himself a house at least (not "free-stone," but a comfortable home), and they should have put by something also for a rainy day. Was it so? They had done their best as publishers for twelve years, under advantageous influences, and the result was that they had paid their ordinary family expenses without laying up a dollar; and the sum total of all their property, over their liabilities, was—less than nothing.

The Harpers, the Appletons, and a few other houses, by a long series of successful hits, amidst a great many comparative failures, have achieved an independent position; but this fact does not undermine another fact, viz. that a large proportion of the publishing business is up-hill work, and the greater part of all the books produced yield less profit on the investment than almost any article of merchandise in the market, while a large share involve a positive, and often serious loss.*

This note, gentlemen, was not intended to be personal. I have no sinister objects to gain by it; but as my name is mentioned in the paragraph quoted by your correspondent, I must beg to add to the above general remarks that, as soon as I can afford to buy one of those "free-stone mansions" to which he refers, I shall do so with a very clear conscience—nay, I shall not object to "hob-nobbing with some of the magnates of the city," though I cannot expect (being a modest man) "to cut a very considerable figure." I shall occupy that mansion, if I live to reach it, with the consciousness that I have earned it as honestly as any tradesman or merchant either in Union Square or the Fifth Avenue has earned his. As yet, however, that mansion is still in dim perspective, for although I may boast that some of our best and most popular authors are on my list, my experience of publishing has so far left me no margin for "free-stone;" and, as a comparatively successful business of five

years has effected so little beyond ordinary expenses, I am afraid the mansion will not be ready this year.

Excuse this egotism, of which I should feel a little ashamed, were it not plain truth,—versus fiction.

Let me add, that for myself,—and I am sure I may speak also for every publisher in the United States, from the Harpers to Mr. John Smith in Arkansas, there is not one of us but is ready to pay successful American authors full one half of the actual net profits accruing on the sale of their books above all expenses. And if the experience and skill of the publisher, in addition to the risks and expenses of trade, do not entitle him to this moiety, to buy his bread and butter, then, in sober earnest, I for one am willing to surrender all, and let the new system be—"Every author his own publisher and book-seller."

This question of profits reminds me again of the other point—losses. Now, so long as the world is destined to be afflicted with dull, heavy, and unattractive books that nobody cares to read—and so long as many of those of real merit will not be appreciated by the discerning or undiscerning world of readers, pray tell me if the publishers are to be held responsible for the author's [or the public's] dulness?

If a poor mortal acting as a "medium" between the two parties, be besieged with manuscripts,—good, bad, and indifferent, at the rate of a dozen or more a week, until, in self-defence, he is obliged to cry, "hold, enough!"—is it because he is not glad to publish any respectable book which a profitable number of readers will buy?

Why, sirs, if I had published one third,—one tenth of the original works that are daily offered to me, it is more than probable that the money due the successful authors would be all used up to pay for the reams of paper wasted on undigested dulness; and thus Genius and Stupidity would be alike ridden by the publisher without earning even their dinner.

The just claims and rights of authors—the true genius which is responded to by the public, as well as that which is not;—the sterling merit unappreciated and the successful charlatanry;—the errors of judgment, which magnify a hobby of an eccentric brain into a work of genius, for which the whole world stands on tiptoe;—the brilliant expectations and bitter disappointments of ill-regulated minds; all these are points suggested by this subject, but I have neither time nor ability to discuss them.

With your permission I may claim the privilege at another time of saying a word yet again on behalf of international justice to authors—a measure as politic and beneficial to the public, as it is equitable to those most interested.

Respectfully yours,

G. P. PUTNAM.

10 Park Place, May 22.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

AMERICAN.

MR. LEWIS COLBY, Nassau st., has in press, and will shortly publish, a volume of original Poems, by Mrs. Emily Judson. It will be a duodecimo of 200 pages.

A letter just received by the editors of the New York Observer, April 27, dated Geneva, informs them that Dr. Merle D'Aubigne has

* It is a fact, and a curious one, that the most profitable books published in this country have been school-books and mere compilations, not properly to be classified as American literature. Of the few "fortunes" which have been made by American publishers, a very small portion indeed could be traced to original works of American authors. What American publisher is there who would not take honest pleasure in paying an American author \$10,000, or \$50,000, or \$100,000, if his works had earned such sums? If they had not, whose fault is it, the publisher's, author's, or "the public"?

finished the fifth volume of his "History of the Reformation," and will publish it shortly.

The late Prof. Edwards, at the time of his death, had in progress of preparation several works on Biblical Literature, amongst which was a "Commentary on 1 Corinthians," nearly ready for the press.

Messrs. MOORE & HORSFALL, Merchants' Exchange, corner of Hanover street and Exchange Place, have sent us their new Catalogue, Part I, 8vo. pp. 24, published the first of this month. Their stock consists of a great variety of English and foreign standard books, and they also receive all the new ones of the day.

The edition of the Waverley Novels, in preparation by the Messrs. HARRIS, has been withdrawn, and we understand will not be published.

A copyright of \$10,000 will be paid to Daniel Webster on the new collected edition of his writings, just from the Boston press.

Messrs. BLANCHARD & LMA, Phila., will publish immediately—"Niebuhr's Lectures on Ancient History," in 3 crown 8vo. vols. (from early sheets). "Lamartine's Memoirs of Illustrious European Characters," 1 vol. 12mo. (from early sheets). "Lehmann's Physiological Chemistry," translated by Day, in 1 vol. "Wilson on Syphilis," with beautiful colored plates, in 1 8vo. vol. "Pirrie's Principles and Practice of Surgery," edited by J. Neill, M.D., in 1 large 8vo. vol. with over 300 illustrations. "Baird's Classical Manual," in 1 roy. 18mo. vol. "Nelligan's Practical Treatise on Diseases of the Skin," in 1 12mo. vol. And they have in preparation—"Sibon's Medical Anatomy," imp. 4to. with colored plates, to match Macleise's Surgical Anatomy. "Palgrave's History of Normandy and of England," in 3 vols. crown 8vo. "Badger's Nestorians, and their Rituals." "Roget's English Thesaurus." "Sir Hudson Lowe's Papers and Correspondence." "Lardner's Natural Philosophy and Astronomy," Second Course, royal 12mo. to match the First Course. "Carpenter on the Varieties of Mankind," 1 vol. 12mo., with numerous illustrations. "Kaltschmidt's German Dictionary," 1 vol. royal 18mo. "Schmitz's School Classical Dictionary," 1 vol. royal 18mo. "Aetion's Cookery for Invalids."

LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, Phila., are preparing for publication—"Sickness; its Trials and Blessings," from the 3d London edition. "The Mine; or, Subterranean Wonders," by the Rev. Isaac Taylor; and the "History of a Ship," by the same author. "Mrs. Lee's History of the Habits and Instinct of Animals." "Chit-Chat; or, Short Tales in Short Words." "The Employment of the Saints in Heaven," by the Rev. H. Harbaugh, author of "Heavenly Recognition of Friends," and "Heaven, or the Sainted Dead." A new edition of "Montgomery's Poetical Works," in 8vo., edited by Himself, with portrait, &c. "Curiosities of the Microscope," by G. Joseph Wythes, M.D., author of the "Microscopist Manual." A second edition of "Bond's Dental Medicine." "Lives and Anecdotes of Misers," from the 2d London edition. "Thompson's Dictionary of Domestic Medicine and Household Surgery."

Mr. J. W. MOORE, Phila., is preparing for publication—"Tales and Fairy Stories," by Hans Christian Andersen, translated by Mad. Chatelaine, with 8 illustrations. Mr. Moore has just published Vol. 5 of "Chambers's Papers for the People," which series was closed at volume twelve, in Edinburgh, with a circulation of 80,000 copies, because of the English Paper Tax. "Rajah Brooke and Borneo" "Antarctic Expeditions," "The Educational Movement," "Wordsworth," and "The Societies of the Middle Ages," are contained in this volume.

Messrs. JAMES MUNROE & Co., Boston, have in press, and nearly ready—"The University

Speaker;" a collection of pieces designed for College Exercises in Declamation and Recitation, with suggestions on the Appropriate Elocution of particular Passages, by Wm. Russell, Author of a Series of Reading Books, one volume 12mo. pp. 525. "Hudson's Shakspeare," with Introductions and Notes, volume 5, 16mo. "The Old Engagement, a Spinster's Story," by Julia Day, 16mo. size. "Parisian Lights, and French Principles seen through American Spectacles"—"Egalité, Fraternité, Liberté," one volume 12mo. "The Mother's Legacy to her Unborn Child," by Elizabeth Joceline, one volume 18mo.

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE will be built, it is said, on a lot on the northeast corner of Fourteenth street and Irving place, 204 feet on Fourteenth street and 122 feet on Irving place. The building is to be an ornament to the city, to comfortably accommodate from 4,000 to 5,000 persons, and the price of admission will be one dollar and under. The yearly rent is to secure 7 per cent. upon each share, and there are to be seventy performances, or operanights, every year. Each subscriber is to have one of the best seats for every share of \$1,000, the choice of seats among the stockholders to be decided by lot. The lessee is to pay all taxes, and assessments, and repairs, license, and insurance. The building is not to cost more than \$200,000, and no money is to be collected from subscribers until 150 shares are subscribed. The books are now open at Messrs. Duncan & Sherman's, and some \$50,000 has been already subscribed. The establishment will be called "The New York Academy of Music," and is already incorporated. The Commissioners named in the charter are Messrs. James Phalen, John Paine, Cortland Palmer, Reuben Withers, Wm. C. H. Waddell, Thos. E. Davis, and Charles A. Davis.

FOREIGN.

Messrs. Johnstone & Hunter have commenced a "Foreign Evangelical Review," to contain selections from some of the best American and continental reviews.

The favor with which the new German Dictionary of Messrs. Grimm has been received may be judged from the fact that up to the 20th of April the sale had exceeded 7000 copies. Part I, containing 120 pages, makes about one half the letter A—royal 8vo. double columns.

Messrs. WESTERMANN BROTHERS, 290 Broadway, are the Agents for the United States. The London Athenæum chronicles the recent death of Mr. John Dalrymple, the eminent surgeon and operator in diseases of the eye. Also, on his passage home from India, the death of Mr. Alexander Mackay, known as the author of "The Western World."

"The Philosophy of Bossuet," with Inedited fragments, is announced by M. Ladrangé, Publisher, Paris.

A new work by Dr. Knox—"Great Artists and Great Anatomists, a Biographical and Philosophical Study;" and "The Vegetation of Europe," by A. Henfrey—are Mr. Van Voorst's recent issues.

"Western Himalaya and Thibet—a Journey in 1847 and 1848," by Dr. Thomson; "A Flora of New Zealand," by Dr. J. D. Hooker; and "A Flora of Esquimaux Land," by Seeman, will be published this month by Reeves & Co.

"The Earlier Forms of Life, as disclosed in the older Rocks," by Sir R. I. Murchison—and "A Hand-Book of Chronology"—based upon L'Art de Verifier les Dates—but improved—are announced by Murray.

"Christophany; or, Original Investigations into the Manifestations of our Saviour," by the Rev. G. B. Kidd, edited by the Rev. O. T. Dobbin; and "Wesley the Worthy and Wesley the Catholic," by the Rev. O. T. Dobbin, are among the newest publications of Ward & Co. "A Residence in Algeria," by Madame Prus, is published by W. Pickering.

Griffin & Co. have ready a new edition of "The Importance of Literature to Men of Business," a series of papers by Lord Mahon, Alison, Lord Morpeth, Charles Knight, Whateley, &c.

Bohn has commenced the republication of the "Bridgewater Treatises," in five shilling volumes.

Prof. Stephen is delivering at King's College, London, a course of Lectures on the Legal Condition of the English Citizen.

Williams & Norgate's new Catalogue of Books in European Languages and Dialects, will be found useful to linguists.

Mr. Rogers, the Poet, has recently given to the British Museum the original MS. agreement between Milton and Samuel Symon, printer, for the publication of Paradise Lost. It is dated April 27, 1667, and Milton was to receive £5 down, £5 after the sale of 1300 copies of each of the 1st, 2d, and 3d editions—making in all £20, supposing 3900 copies sold. A final receipt by his widow shows £13 to have been received—exclusive of the £5 down.

AMERICAN BOOKS.

LIST OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES FROM THE 15TH OF MAY TO THE 1ST OF JUNE.

Buchanan (R.)—The Culture of the Grape, and Wine-Making; with an Appendix, on the Culture of the Strawberry. 12mo. pp. 142, woodcuts (Cincinnati, Moore & Anderson).
California Illustrated; including a Description of the Panama and Nicaragua Routes. By a Returned Californian. 8vo. pp. 224, 48 large lithographs (W. Holdredge), Price \$2.
Calpe (Adadus).—The Two Fathers. Translated from the Spanish, by the Author. 12mo. pp. 203 (Stringer & Townsend).
Clarke (J. F.).—Eleven Weeks in Europe, and what may be Seen in that time. 12mo. pp. 328 (Boston, Ticknor, Reed & Fields).
Davis (A. J.).—The Great Harmonia. Vol. 3. 12mo. pp. 401 (Boston, B. B. Mussey & Co.).
Deems (Chas. F.).—What Now? for Young Ladies leaving School. 16mo. pp. 130 (M. W. Dodd).
Guild (Wm.).—New York and the White Mountains; a Guide along the Road. 12mo. pp. 80, many woodcuts, and a map (Boston, Bradbury & Guild).
Gould (W. M.).—Zephyrs from Italy and Sicily. 12mo. (D. Appleton & Co.).
Grayson (E.).—Overing; or, the Heir of Wycherly: a Historical Romance. 12mo. pp. 416 (Cornish, Lamport & Co.).
Hamilton (Wm. T. D.D.).—The Friend of Moses; or, a Defence of the Pentateuch. 8vo. pp. 552 (M. W. Dodd).
Harrison (G. M.D.).—An Exposition of some of the Laws of the Latin Grammar. 12mo. pp. 290 (Harper & Brothers).
Hervey (G. W.).—The Principles of Courtesy, with Hints and Observations on Manners and Habits. 12mo. pp. 300 (Harper & Brothers).
Kentish (T.).—A Treatise on a Box of Instruments; for the Use of Engineers, Seamen, and Students. 12mo. pp. 228 (Phila., H. C. Baird).
Lermont (L.).—Ups and Downs; or, the Lost Treasure Restored: a Book for Youth. 12mo. pp. 150 (Phila., L. Lermont).
Miles (W. P.).—Address before the Alumni of Charleston College, March 30, 1852. 12mo. pp. 26 (Charleston, Walker & James).
Overman (F.).—A Treatise on Metallurgy; comprising Mining, &c. 8vo. pp. 720, 300 woodcuts (D. Appleton & Co.).
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